

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached replacement drawing sheets containing Figs. 3, 7, 9, 15-17, and 27 include changes described in the Remarks section which follows.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings; objected to the specification; objected to the claims; and rejected claims 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner indicated that claims 1-5 and 9-17 are allowed. The Examiner objected to claims 6-8 but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants have amended the specification and claims 5-8, 10, 12, 13, and 16. Applicants also submit replacement drawing sheets containing amendments of Figs. 3, 7, 9, 15-17, and 27.

In paragraph 1 of the detailed action, the Examiner objected to the drawings because they do not show a feature recited in claim 6. Applicants have amended Fig. 7 and the specification at page 21 to identify a residual ozonized gas 8g accumulated in an upper space 8 in the advanced-ozonation chamber 26, which corresponds to the claim feature identified by the Examiner.

In response to the Examiner's objection to the drawings in paragraph 2 of the detailed action, applicants have amended Fig. 3 to include reference numerals 1b and 4a.

In response to the Examiner's objection to the drawings in paragraph 3 of the detailed action, applicants have amended the specification at page 24, line 32 and page 38, line 29, to include the reference characters cited by the Examiner.

In response to the Examiner's objection to the drawings in paragraph 4 of the detailed action, applicants have amended Fig. 27 to change the reference character identifying the upper space of the water treating tank to character "57," and amended the specification at page 2, line 26 to include this reference character. Applicants have

also amended Fig. 9 to change the reference character identifying the connecting line from “27a” to --27--. In response to the requirement made by the Examiner in paragraph 5 of the detailed action, applicants have corrected Fig. 27 by adding the legend --Prior Art--.

In response to the Examiner’s objection to the drawings in paragraph 6 of the detailed action, applicants have amended Figs. 15-17 to change the label “TR” to --TR_{es}--. In Figs. 15 and 17, applicants have also amended “ΔT” to --ΔTR--.

In paragraph 7 of the detailed action, the Examiner identified informalities in the specification and claims. Applicants have amended the specification and claims to address all of the informalities identified by the Examiner. Applicants have also amended claim 5 to correct an informality.

In paragraphs 8-11 of the detailed action, the Examiner rejected claims 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In response, applicants have amended claims 6 and 7 to ensure proper antecedent basis for the limitations pointed out by the Examiner.

Applicants submit that the amendments to the specification and claims and corrections to the drawings overcome all of the Examiner’s grounds for objection and rejection. Therefore, the application is in condition for allowance. A favorable action is requested.

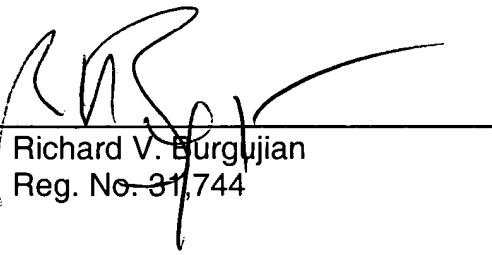
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 31, 2005

By: _____


Richard V. Burgujian
Reg. No. 31,744

Attachments: Replacement Sheets 2/16, 4/16, 5/16, 9/16, and 16/16 (Figs. 3, 7, 9, 15-17, and 27).